

Application No.: 09/855,321
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REMARKS

Claims 17-21 and 23-45 are pending prior to entry of the present amendments. Applicants are pleased to note that Claims 41-45 have been allowed. Claims 17-21 and 23-40 were again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Although Applicants' continue to disagree with the rejection, these claims have been cancelled in order to move the application to allowance.

In view of the cancellation of Claims 17-21 and 23-40, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same. If any issues remain, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicants' representative at the number provided below in order to resolve such issues promptly.


No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, the Applicants are not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicants have made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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